

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1 1. **(Cancelled)**

- 1 2. **(Previously presented)** A filter material comprising a blend of (a) polypropylene
2 fibers with measurable amounts of at least one extractable agent on outer surfaces
3 thereof, and (b) fibers of a second type selected from a group consisting of acrylic and
4 modacrylic, wherein the measurable amount of said at least one extractable agent is less
5 than about 0.1 weight percent.

- 1 3. **(Previously presented)** The filter material in accordance with claim 2, wherein the
2 blend contains polypropylene fibers and the second type of fibers in a ratio between about
3 10:90 and about 90:10.

- 1 4. **(Original)** The filter material in accordance with claim 3, wherein the blend contains
2 polypropylene fibers and the second type of fibers in a ratio between about 20:80 and
3 about 80:20.

1 5. **(Original)** The filter material in accordance with claim 4, wherein the blend contains
2 polypropylene fibers and the second type of fibers in a ratio between about 30:70 and
3 about 70:30.

1 6. **(Original)** The filter material in accordance with claim 5, wherein the blend contains
2 polypropylene fibers and the second type of fibers in a ratio between about 40:60 and
3 about 60:40.

1 7. **(Original)** The filter material in accordance with claim 6, wherein the blend contains
2 polypropylene fibers and the second type of fibers in a ratio between about 45:55 and
3 about 55:45.

1 8. **(Original)** The filter material in accordance with claim 7, wherein the blend
2 comprises about 50 weight percent polypropylene fibers and about 50 weight percent of
3 the second type of fibers.

1 9. **(Previously presented)** The filter material in accordance with claim 2, wherein the
2 blend contains polypropylene fibers and acrylic fibers in a ratio between about 20:80 and
3 about 80:20.

1 10. **(Original)** The filter material in accordance with claim 9, wherein the blend contains
2 polypropylene fibers and acrylic fibers in a ratio between about 30:70 and about 70:30.

1 11. **(Original)** The filter material in accordance with claim 10, wherein the blend
2 contains polypropylene fibers and acrylic fibers in a ratio between about 40:60 and about
3 60:40.

1 12. **(Original)** The filter material in accordance with claim 11, wherein the blend
2 contains polypropylene fibers and acrylic fibers in a ratio between about 45:55 and about
3 55:45.

1 13. **(Original)** The filter material in accordance with claim 12, wherein the blend
2 comprises about 50 weight percent polypropylene fibers and about 50 weight percent
3 acrylic fibers.

1 14. **(Previously presented)** The filter material in accordance with claim 2, wherein the
2 blend contains polypropylene fibers and modacrylic fibers in a ratio between about 20:80
3 and about 80:20.

1 15. **(Original)** The filter material in accordance with claim 14, wherein the blend
2 contains polypropylene fibers and modacrylic fibers in a ratio between about 30:70 and
3 about 70:30.

1 16. **(Original)** The filter material in accordance with claim 15, wherein the blend
2 contains polypropylene fibers and modacrylic fibers in a ratio between about 40:60 and
3 about 60:40.

1 17. **(Original)** The filter material in accordance with claim 16, wherein the blend
2 contains polypropylene fibers and modacrylic fibers in a ratio between about 45:55 and
3 about 55:45.

1 18. **(Original)** The filter material in accordance with claim 17, wherein the blend
2 comprises about 50 weight percent polypropylene fibers and about 50 weight percent
3 modacrylic fibers.

1 19. **(Previously presented)** The filter material in accordance with claim 2, wherein the
2 second type of fibers comprises acrylic fibers which are substantially free of extractable
3 agents.

1 20. **(Previously presented)** The filter material in accordance with claim 2, wherein the
2 second type of fibers comprises acrylic fibers which contain measurable amounts of at
3 least one extractable agent.

1 21. **(Previously presented)** The filter material in accordance with claim 2, wherein the
2 second type of fibers comprises modacrylic fibers which are substantially free of
3 extractable agents.

1 22. **(Previously presented)** The filter material in accordance with claim 2, wherein the
2 second type of fibers comprises modacrylic fibers which contain measurable amounts of
3 at least one extractable agent.

1 23. **(Previously presented)** The filter material in accordance with claim 2, wherein the
2 polypropylene fibers are not cleaned to remove said at least one extractable agent.

1 24. **(Previously presented)** A filter material comprising a blend of (a) polypropylene
2 fibers, and (b) fibers of a second type with less than about 0.1 weight percent of at least
3 one extractable agent on outer surfaces thereof, said fibers being selected from a group
4 consisting of acrylic and modacrylic.

1 25. **(Currently amended)** The filter material in accordance with claim ~~24~~ 24, wherein
2 the polypropylene fibers have measurable amounts of at least one extractable agent on
3 outer surfaces thereof.

1 26. **(Withdrawn)** A method of filtering particulate from a gas stream, the method
2 comprising:

3 (a) blending polypropylene fibers having measurable amounts of at least one
4 extractable agent on outer surfaces thereof with fibers of a second type selected
5 from a group consisting of acrylic and modacrylic to form a filter material; and

6 (b) disposing said filter material in said gas stream without cleaning said at least
7 one extractable agent from the outer surfaces of the fibers.

1 27. **(New)** The filter material in accordance with claim 2, wherein said at least one
2 extractable agent is an agent used in a process to make the polypropylene fibers.

1 28. **(New)** The filter material in accordance with claim 27, wherein said at least one
2 extractable agent is selected from a group consisting of a lubricant and an anti-static
3 agent.

1 29. **(New)** The filter material in accordance with claim 20, wherein said at least one
2 extractable agent is an agent used in a process to make the acrylic fibers.

1 30. **(New)** The filter material in accordance with claim 29, wherein said at least one
2 extractable agent is selected from a group consisting of a lubricant and an anti-static
3 agent.

1 31. **(New)** The filter material in accordance with claim 22, wherein said at least one
2 extractable agent is an agent used in a process to make the modacrylic fibers.

1 32. **(New)** The filter material in accordance with claim 31, wherein said at least one
2 extractable agent is selected from a group consisting of a lubricant and an anti-static
3 agent.

1 33. **(New)** The filter material in accordance with claim 24, wherein said at least one
2 extractable agent is an agent used in a process to make the fibers of a second type.

1 34. **(New)** The filter material in accordance with claim 33, wherein said at least one
2 extractable agent is selected from a group consisting of a lubricant and an anti-static
3 agent.

1 35. **(New)** The filter material in accordance with claim 25, wherein said at least one
2 extractable agent is an agent used in a process to make the polypropylene fibers.

1 36. **(New)** The filter material in accordance with claim 35, wherein said at least one
2 extractable agent is selected from a group consisting of a lubricant and an anti-static
3 agent.